

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 044322

64

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 NEA-10 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AEC-11 DODE-00

FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INT-08 L-03 NSC-07 PM-07 SCI-06

SS-20 PA-04 /188 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:ESAVAGE/VRM

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

S/PRS - J. KING

----- 127494

O 052325Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 044322

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: 0*94

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 044322

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT'S MARCH 5 NOON NEWS BRIEFING --

EC-ARAB COOPERATION AND ENERGY CONFERENCE

1. EXCERPTS SPOKESMAN'S MARCH 5 NOON NEWS BRIEFING FOLLOW:

Q: GEORGE, THERE IS CONCERN ON THE HILL, PARTICULARLY IN THE SENATE, THAT THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH ITS SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES FOR AN OIL ARRANGEMENT. CAN YOU RECONCILE THAT WITH THE DECISION THAT WAS REACHED HERE AT THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE TO ALL GO TOGETHER ON IT?

A: WELL, I'D LIKE TO COMMENT ON IT, I THINK, IN THIS SENSE. FIRST, AS YOU KNOW, THE US WAS NOT CONSULTED ON THAT PARTICULAR ACTIVITY. WE WERE INFORMED ABOUT IT AFTER IT BECAME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. AS YOU KNOW, THE SECRETARY WAS TOLD OF THIS BY FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL IN BRUSSELS YESTERDAY -- FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL, ACTING AS PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

I BELIEVE YOU WILL HAVE READ THAT THE SECRETARY HIMSELF, AT THAT TIME, SAID, "OF COURSE THE UNITED STATES CLAIMS NO VETO OVER ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY." HOWEVER, THE PROCEDURE DOES RAISE SOME QUESTION IN OUR MINDS ABOUT THE NATURE OF CONSULTATION, BECAUSE, AS WE

WATCH HOW THIS EMERGES AND PROGRESSES, WE, OF COURSE, VERY NATURALLY RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE SUCH SIMILAR ACTION IF IT SHOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

BUT I WOULD SAY THAT I WOULD NOT WANT YOU TO JUMP TO ANY CONCLUSION FROM THOSE COMMENTS. FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL MADE A NUMBER OF COMMENTS AT THE TIME ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE DOCUMENT AND ITS INTENT, AND WE ARE STUDYING, AND VERY CAREFULLY, THE EC DOCUMENT AND COMMENTS ON IT.

Q: GEORGE, WOULD IT BE FAIR TO SAY -- WOULD THIS BE A FAIR WAY TO PUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT POSITION THAT IT ISN'T REALLY CONSULTATION TO BE TOLD OF THE DECISION AFTER IT IS MADE?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 044322

A: I THINK THAT IS A FAIR WAY OF DESCRIBING IT. IT IS A NORMAL COMPLAINT ABOUT INADEQUATE CONSULTATION ALWAYS. CONSULTATION IS NOT BEING INFORMED AFTER THE FACT.

Q: CAN YOU EXPLAIN A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THE REMARK THAT WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE SUCH SIMILAR ACTION AS APPROPRIATE?

A: I THINK THAT'S A PROPER PRECAUTIONARY NOTE ANY TIME.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THREATENING TO ACT WITHOUT CONSULTING?

A: NO, I'M NOT THREATENING. I'M MERELY MAKING THE OBSERVATION THAT UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES AS THIS, WHERE WE ARE WORKING TOGETHER, OR DEALING WITH PROBLEMS THAT BEAR ON EACH OTHER, THAT WE RESERVE NATURALLY THE RIGHT TO TAKE SIMILAR ACTION WHEN AND IF WE SHOULD DECIDE IT IS APPROPRIATE, AND WHERE.

Q: APART FROM THE CONSULTATION, THE PROBLEM OF CONSULTATION, DO YOU APPROVE OF THE ACTION?

A: I THINK I'D LEAVE THAT COMMENT FOR A LATER MOMENT BECAUSE, AS I HAVE SAID, WE ARE STUDYING THIS MATTER. I THINK IT IS MORE APPROPRIATE TO COME LATER.

Q: GEORGE, WHAT YOU HAVE SAID -- DOESN'T THAT SEEM TO UNDERMINE AT LEAST TO SOME DEGREE -- IN MY MIND IT DOES -- THE RATIONALE FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE OIL CONSUMING COUNTRIES?

A: I THINK THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

Q: COULD YOU GIVE US SOME IDEA OF THE NATURE OF FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL'S COMMENTARIES ON THE DOCUMENT?

A: NO. HE SPOKE PRIVATELY TO THE SECRETARY, AND I CAN'T GO INTO THOSE.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF THE INTENT OF THE DOCUMENT?
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 044322

A: I THINK I WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE ANYTHING ATTRIBUTABLE TO MR. SCHEEL TO WHAT HE HIMSELF HAS SAID TO THE PRESS.

Q: GEORGE, CAN I GO BACK TO DARIUS' QUESTION AND GET CLARIFICATION? DARIUS ASKED WHETHER THE ACTION IN BRUSSELS MIGHT UNDERMINE THE ENERGY CONFERENCE, AND YOU REPLIED THAT THAT REMAINED TO BE SEEN. DOES THIS IMPLY THAT YOU THINK THE ENERGY CONFERENCE IS UNDER THE THREAT OF NOT TAKING PLACE?

A: NO, I'M NOT. I'M SAYING IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN. I MEAN, WE HAVE HAD THE FIRST ACTIVITY OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY GROUP. THEY HAD A DOCUMENT WHICH HAS MANY IMPLICATIONS. WE WILL STUDY IT, AND IT WOULD BE PRE-

MATURE TO JUMP TO ANY CONCLUSION AT THIS EARLY STAGE.

Q: GEORGE, YOU SAID THAT THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED BY THE EUROPEANS RAISED SOME QUESTION ABOUT THE NATURE OF CONSULTATION. DID SECRETARY KISSINGER RAISE THIS QUESTION WITH MR. SCHEEL YESTERDAY?

A: THIS WAS A BILATERAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN THEM. I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY.

Q: WELL, IN OTHER WORDS, ARE YOU EXPRESSING YOUR RESERVE OF THIS CONDUCT THROUGH US TODAY, OR HAS IT ALREADY BEEN EXPRESSED DIRECTLY TO THE EUROPEANS?

A: I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY WHAT THE SECRETARY MAY HAVE SAID TO MR. SCHEEL. BUT THERE IS NO QUESTION ABOUT OUR POSITION, WHICH IS OUR ATTITUDE AS I HAVE DESCRIBED IT.

NOW, WHAT HE MAY HAVE SAID TO FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE HAS SAID IT IS SOMETHING ELSE WHICH I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON, BUT OUR REACTION IS AS I HAVE GIVEN IT TO YOU TODAY.

Q: GEORGE, DOES WHAT HAPPENED IN BRUSSELS NULLIFY WHAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS STRESSING AT THE ENERGY CONFERENCE HERE, NOT GOING IT ALONE, ETC., COOPERATING?
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 044322

A: THE POINT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE IS I THINK IT RAISES THE QUESTION WHICH WE WILL BE LOOKING AT.

Q: GEORGE, FOR CLARIFICATION PURPOSES, IT SEEMS TO ME THE SECRETARY'S INTENT FOR ALMOST THE LAST YEAR HAS BEEN TO STIMULATE THE EUROPEAN NINE TO SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE. NOW THEY HAVE SPOKEN WITH ONE VOICE WITH THIS BID TO THE ARABS, TO THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES AND TO THEIR FOREIGN MINISTERS. IS THERE SOME KIND OF DOUBLE STANDARD HERE IN OUR APPROACH. DO WE WANT THEM TO SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE IN ONE FORUM AND SEVERAL VOICES IN ANOTHER?

A: NO. AS YOU WILL RECALL, WE WERE PERFECTLY CONTENT, FOR EXAMPLE, TO HAVE THE EUROPEANS COME AND SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE AT THE ENERGY CONFERENCE THAT WAS HELD HERE. THE QUESTION AT ISSUE IS NOT WHETHER THEY SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE. WE ARE ON RECORD REPEATEDLY AS FAVORING THE EVOLUTION OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. AND THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO CHANGE IN THAT POSITION. THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY HIMSELF, I BELIEVE, A NUMBER OF TIMES WITHIN THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS. THE QUESTION IS

WHETHER THE EUROPEAN GROUP AS A UNIT SPEAKS AND ACTS ON
THE BASIS OF A DEGREE OF CONSULTATION WHICH IS TO
BE REASONABLY EXPECTED BETWEEN FRIENDS. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PETROLEUM, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE044322
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ESAVAGE/VRM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740366/aaaacjho.tel
Line Count: 226
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUL 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <16 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT'S MARCH 5 NOON NEWS BRIEFING -- EC-ARAB COOPERATION AND ENERGY CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, EEC
To: BONN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005